



News Release

Communications New Brunswick

Human Rights Commission

Forum to mark 40th anniversary of Human Rights Act (07/09/10)

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FREDERICTON (CNB) - The New Brunswick Human Rights Commission, the Atlantic Human Rights Centre at St. Thomas University and the Office of the Ombudsman of New Brunswick will hold a one-day forum on Monday, Sept. 24 to mark the 40th anniversary of the *Human Rights Act* of New Brunswick.

New Brunswick was the second province in Canada to create a human rights commission to administer its human rights legislation. What led to the creation of the Human Rights Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman in 1967? How has the human rights landscape changed since then, and what are some of the current and future human rights challenges in New Brunswick? These are some of the questions that will be addressed.

Speakers include Senate Speaker Noël A. Kinsella, former Toronto Mayor and current Ontario Human Rights Commission Chief Commissioner Barbara Hall and New Brunswick Ombudsman Bernard Richard.

UNB Law professor Dr. Julia Hughes will speak about mandatory retirement. Other topics include the recently adopted UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the draft UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

During this event, the New Brunswick Human Rights Award will be given to Kinsella in recognition of the remarkable role he played in the establishment of the Human Rights Commission and during the first 22 years of its mandate.

This forum will be of interest to lawyers, employers, human rights practitioners, human resource professionals, academics, students, and the general public.

The event will start at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 5 p.m. It will be held at the St. Thomas University Forest Hill Conference Centre, at the corner of Forest Hill Road and the old Trans-Canada Highway in Fredericton. Simultaneous interpretation will be available.

The registration deadline is Sept. 20. The registration fee is \$60 and includes lunch and refreshments. Payments must be by cheque or cash. Admission is free for full-time students.

The agenda of the forum is available online at <http://www.gnb.ca/hrc-cdp>.

07/09/10

MEDIA CONTACT: For more information, or to register, call 1-888-471-2233 or 1-506-453-2301.

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